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fall together. This is very important, because if  
several ends fall together, there would be a weak place  
in the yarn. The remaining processes of  
spinning & weaving, are not peculiar to wool, &  
therefore, need not delay us.

The valley of the Aire & that of the Calder, with the  
district that lies between them, form the  
great 'Clothing' District of the West-riding. Follow  
the Aire up from Leeds to beyond Keighley, follow  
up the Calder from Wakefield to beyond Halifax  
& you find the valleys bristling with small  
chimneys, either crowded together in towns or  
scattered in villages. Whenever a stream falls  
into either of these rivers, there is a nest of mills  
with many cottages for the work-people. Many small  
streams join the Calder, & in each of their valleys  
is a clothing town or village. Bradford & Keighley, between  
the Aire & the Calder, is also very thickly sprinkled  
with mills.

It is only necessary to look at the rocky head  
of the streams to understand the location of  
the woollen manufactures in a land of rivers  
& water courses. much water is used in cleansing  
the wool, in finishing & dyeing the cloth. Again,  
the clothing towns of the West-riding are placed on the  
South Yorkshire coal field, which affords, not only  
coal to work the engines, but iron for the manufactures  
of engines & machines. Night-slept? are the  
great ports of Liverpool & Hull. ~~There~~ very complete system  
of canals & railways conveying the goods between the clothing  
towns & these ports.

Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury &  
Keighley are the chief clothing towns in & near the valleys of  
the Aire & Calder, & are immense nurseries of clothes for  
the whole of the West-riding & the East-riding. Leeds

complete systems of canals & railways convey the food  
between ~~these towns~~ the clothing towns & other ports.  
Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, &  
Keighley are the chief clothing towns in answer to valleys  
of the Aire & Calder. & an immense number of places  
towns & villages make of the whole district one vast industry.

Leeds.

Leeds. Of this cluster of busy towns, Leeds, the fifth town in England  
309,126 in population, is the most important. It is a rich, busy,  
enterprising town, with many mills & many warehouses,  
the former being built, for the most part, round the Aire.  
So great a labouring population demands many streets  
of small houses; the merchants & manufacturers  
have their pleasant dwellings in the fine suburbs of  
the town, especially about Woodhouse Moss, & Roundhay,  
a very fine public park. Leeds has, of course, its broad  
streets well-stocked shops & rows of imposing warehouses  
built with an eye to effect. The handsome town hall, with  
a great hall capable of holding 4,000 persons, is the centre  
of the group of important public buildings. The Museum  
of the Literary & Philosophical Society, & the Leeds Library  
are especially interesting; also, from another point-  
of view are the three Cloth Halls & the Industrial Museum.  
Of the churches, St. Peter's parish church is perhaps the  
most interesting, as connected with the labours of the Lab-  
or. Leeds has various industries besides  
now connected with cloth: iron factories & foundries,  
as the Wellington & the Aire & Calder Foundries, glass works,  
brass works, leather works, but next after that of woollens  
linen is its most important manufacture, more linen  
being made here than in any other town of the United  
Kingdom, excepting Belfast. The great flax mills where  
more than 2,000 persons are employed are at Holbeck  
on the Aire, a suburb of Leeds, & belong to the Messrs. Farnley.  
They are amongst the largest flax mills in Europe.  
Barnsley in North Yorkshire, 'Black Barnsley' is also  
a busy linen-making place, noted for its damasks, & chintzes.  
Leeds is now a great town; in remote Saxon days there  
was a little kingdom of Lothia or Leeds which took in the  
valleys of the Aire, Calder, & Wharfe. The Conquerors reduced  
the town to a waste, & later we read of a Leeds Castle, in which  
Richard II. was confined, but no trace of its remains. In  
the Civil War. we find Leeds taken by the Royalists & won by the



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The Marquis of Newcastle, created in the following year, (1643) by Sir Thomas Fairfax. The great industry of the town was probably carried on in the homesteads of the valley as far back as the reign of Edward III. In the beginning of the present century saw a sudden increase in the prosperity & population of the town, which now has over 300,000 inhabitants. The remains of the old castle, the beautiful & perfect remains of a Cistercian house Bradford, are within easy reach of Leeds.

180, 133 Known as the 'Metropolis of Woollen', but as Bradford manufactures every sort of soft woollen material, perhaps it is better to say, that all woollen goods which are not felted or pulled after being woven are made here. The town lies in a valley amongst the rolling hills between the Calder and the Airedale. From any of the hillsides hemming in the town you see Bradford in the hollow, the houses clustering thickly, church steeples here & there, & small chimneys, something like two hundred of them, rising everywhere. The surrounding hills afford good building stone, & many an open quarry scars their sides, a circumstance which, while it gives a raw bleak look to the surrounding landscape, adds greatly to the appearance of the town. These handsome stone buildings, both public & private, give it a substantial well to do air. Amongst the public buildings, or the fine town hall, the Town Market & the Technical College: then, there are streets of tall well built warehouses, & well stored shops, while the pleasant villas of the merchants & manufacturers on the outskirts convey the impression that house architecture is more successful in Bradford, as in some of the Yorkshire towns, than in the suburbs of the metropolis. The houses of the work people too, are roomy & well built. The multitudes of the West Riding are pleased & glad to know having as comfortable houses as any work people in England; nor can their work in the mills be called laborious. Merinoes, alpacas, every sort of soft down, stuff, twilled cloth for pocket handkerchiefs, & trimmings, are made here. All goods - silks & satins, plushes,

plushes & cloths - are produced at the Mammingshams Mill  
(Gt. Lister), a place for eye improving appearance.

Bradford has not a very interesting history. During the Civil War, it was on the side of the Parliament, & suffered an attack from the Earl of Newcastle. The two Fairfaxs, Lord Fairfax & his son Sir Thomas - of an ancient Yorkshire family - being the Parliamentary leaders. Sir Thomas Fairfax has left a memoir containing interesting particulars with regard to the towns of Leeds & Bradford. Thus, for example, "the Earl of Newcastle needed not to raise battalions (about Bradford), for the hills commanded all the town; how, amongst the prisoners, was 'my wife, the officer behind whom the work being taken; how, 'my daughter, not being above nine years old, being carried before her maid, endured all this retreat on horseback" - (20 hours, to Tetbury, in Hull). &c. &c.

Adjoining Bradford are the Low Moor Ironworks, celebrated for the strength & toughness of the iron goods produced in them - iron plates, bars, rails for railway lines &c. - the best in the world. The Low Moor brand is known all over the world. These great iron works, which employ some 4,000 men, rest upon the north-west corner of the coalfield, where there is much ironstone.

The interesting little townships of Ballin lies within two miles of Bradford. Every one knows its history, how, by what appeared a happy chance, a young Bradford manufacturer lighted upon certain "queer looking stuff", of which he made a new dress material, a shining, silky, cool stuff, most pleasant for summer wear. The "queer stuff" was the soft, fine silky wool - brown, black, or white - of the Alpaca, a beautiful creature of the Andes. Mr. Salt - (later Sir Lewis Salt), grew rich by his discovery, & built on a lovely spot in the Aire valley, a palace like factory, a most perfect & compact little town for his work people, with admirable institutions & regulations, designed to make the mill workers healthy, happy, prosperous & independent. Many kinds of stuff besides alpaca are made in the great factory, & every kind of wool used in the woollen manufactures is <sup>employed</sup> ~~utilized~~ here.



## Kalijae.

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p. 1033  
We have now to notice the dozens of smaller towns & clothing villages which gather round Leeds & Bradford, the two great centres. Beyond our long barrell after another we come upon a town in a valley shaped like a basin, & here by high bare hills this is Kalijae, the third in importance of the West Riding clothing towns. (Population 10,000). The hill slopes & the valleys bristle with chimneys, & there are cotton as well as worsted & woollen factories scattered throughout this large parish which extends as far as Lofthouse. The manufactures of the town are various & interesting - materials for curtains, table-covers, dresses, &c.; the Dressers. Crossley's the largest mill in the town, is a great carpet factory, employing over 3,000 hands. Before the introduction of machinery, Kalijae was the centre of the Yorkshire woollen works, which preeminence it probably owed to Edward III., who brought Flemish weavers here to instruct his subjects in the art of weaving Flemish cloth out of the then much prized English wool. And "Happy," says Fuller, "the yeoman's home into which one of these Dutchmen did enter, bringing industry & wealth along with them." Kalijae is rather a handsome town, built of brown freestone. It has a fine 13th century parish church, & a beautiful new church, "All Souls", built by Sir Gilbert Scott.

## Kuddersfield, &c.

11/3/50  
p. 1034  
Kuddersfield is another exceedingly well-to-do clothing town on the great coal field. Like Bradford & Kalijae it is built of stone & has wide streets & good buildings & various admirable institutions. The town alone has more than 100 mills, & the pretty valleys which open on all sides of it hold many clothing villages. Out of Kuddersfield, westward, you get into the more country which forms the borderland between Yorkshire & Lancashire. Here are many Edges, Scout Edge, Longwood Edge, Stan Edge, Moss Edge - edges indeed, each being a sort of step leading to the black moor above. Blackstone Edge is the highest & the most of these long bare hills. The valleys are just lovely, & perhaps the

placed troops in ambush, on either side of Wakefield  
Green, under the command of Lord Clifford & the  
Earl of Wiltshire, & appearing before the castle with the  
mainbody of her army, with counts & knights, marched  
the Duke to battle. So he left the castle, & descended  
with his small army upon the Green. "But," says  
Hall "when he was in the plain ground between his  
castle & the town of Wakefield, he was environed on  
every side like a fish in a net-- so that he,  
manfully fighting, was within halpenny's  
claim & dead, his whole army discouraged." "Everyone  
knows the part played by Clifford in  
this battle, who," for slaughtering of men at Wakefield  
was called the butcher:-- How he struck off the  
head of the dead York & smothered it with a paper crown,  
which crowned head the Queen had set upon Micklegate  
Bar, "so York might overlook the tower of York".  
Another tale of Clifford's barbarity may well be  
doubted:-- how he killed in cold blood the young  
Earl of Rutland, the second son of Richard,  
"a fair gentleman & a maiden-like person;"  
but as Rutland was then a youth of seventeen  
he is more likely to have been in the thick of  
the fight than to have been 'gently & secretly'  
led off the field by his schoolmaster.

Within twenty miles from Wakefield, to the north-west,  
is the village of Towton; & near it is a meadow, where  
the grass is rich & rank, & there is a thicket of wild  
roses, red & white, growing in loving clusters. This  
meadow was the scene of the most bloody battle  
ever fought in English ground. Again, an army  
of the North, 60,000 strong, had gathered under the  
banner of the Red Rose, led by the earls of Northumberland  
& Westmoreland - Henry & Margaret remaining in  
safety at York. The Yorkists, <sup>forces</sup> under Edward IV. (and  
only crowned at ~~Westminster~~ & Warwick, the King's make,  
were almost as numerous.

At four o'clock on the Saturday afternoon - the 29<sup>th</sup> of  
March, 1461, the eve of Palm Sunday - it is <sup>believed</sup> that  
the two armies met, & fought blindly through the night



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night, won into the quiet of Palm Sunday, the snow falling thick all the time, clanging & clanging sheet over the slain. No quarters, no prisoners, was the order on both sides. At first, they fought with arrows, but the arrows missed in the blinding snow, so the men threw aside their bows & drew their swords, & a terrible hand to hand struggle began. At last the Lancastrians gave way, retreating in order until they reached the little river Cock which winds round the 'Bloody Meadow', & was at the time swollen by heavy rains. They descended to the river by a very steep road; the men from behind fell headlong upon those in front, & so many perished in the water that the red cross on the dead bodies of their comrades.

### Memoirs of Pontefract.

(Ref.) "O Pontefract, Pontefract! O thou bloody prison  
Fatal to minions & noble peers!" "Rich. III."

1798-

Still in the Air valley, in Pontefract, a place of extraordinary historical interest. It is a clean, pleasant country town with an important market for corn & cattle, & in the neighbourhood, a rather unusual crop is raised, the pretty liquorice plant from whose roots the well known 'Pontefract cakes' are made. It is to its castle that Pontefract owes its <sup>historic</sup> ~~name~~ <sup>name</sup>. ~~as it has stood for 600 years, was the place of~~  
The Union of Great Yorkshire. When the Congress called Yorkshire to present the Lords of this district to one Robert de Lacy, who, finding a high rock <sup>which</sup> ~~which~~ commanded the Air, raised upon it a renowned stronghold - ~~a massive~~ <sup>partly, partly</sup> castle, surrounded by a high wall with seven towers; ~~with~~ <sup>without</sup> a deep moat. Pontefract first becomes the centre of important historical events in connection with Thomas of Lancaster, the Lord of the earldoms, the grandson of a King, (Henry III.), who dwelt at his castle of Pontefract with princely state. He was the people's friend, & throughout England men looked to him for deliverance from the oppressive taxation which Edward's devotion to favourites & idle pleasures led him to impose upon the nation. It was made Lancaster that the outraged barons rose to avenge, <sup>and</sup>

only the injured, but the insults they had received at the hands of their jailer. They followed the jailer to Scarborough, where he had taken refuge, took the castle, released their prisoners, & carried him to Blacklow Hill, near Warrick, where he was beheaded by order of Lancaster.

New favorites arose, - this time, two De la Spencers, James & son, who had been in the first place, dependents of Lancaster. Again the barons rose under their former leader, but this time to be defeated. A battle was fought at Boroughbridge on the Ouse; Lancaster was taken, & was carried down the Ouse to York, & thence, to his own castle of Pontefract which the king had seized.

There he was tried as a traitor before Edward II., & condemned to death. The high ground above the castle is known to this day as St. Thomas's Hill. Thither he was led on a grey poney, the crowd pelting him with stones. "King of heavens!" he cried, "grant me mercy, for my earthly king hath forsaken me!" He was beheaded at the top of the hill, 1322. But the king did not lose his adversary.

Kentworth, Lancaster figured in the popular imagination as a saint-martyr, who had suffered for the public good. Miracles, it was said, were wrought at his tomb; offerings were brought to his shrine; & whether or not he was duly canonized by the Pope, it is as 'St. Thomas' he is yet remembered within St. Pontefract.

Still within the 14<sup>th</sup> century, (1392), this castle was the scene of a tragedy. It was the last prison of Richard II. after his decree that he should be kept for life in some lonely castle, "unfrequented by any concourse of people." Three of his Yorkshire castles had been already tried, - Leeds, Rikham, & Knareborough. He had not been long at Pontefract when

news of his death was made public. How he died is not certainly known, we all know Shakespeare's version, that he was murdered, struggling manfully, & overpowered by numbers; another version is, that he died of starvation, & a third, that he did indeed die of starvation, but of his own will, unable to support the evils of his condition.

The history of Pontefract is the history of England, with its unexampled events is this northern stronghold associated; we will only notice those which belong peculiarly



to the history of Yorkshire.

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In northern country as there were many picturesque ruins of roofless abbeys as in Yorkshire, monasteries did the order for the dissolution of the lesser & the greater <sup>(1536-)</sup> houses, came such consideration. There were over 80 monasteries great & small in the country. The effect of the dissolution was not only to turn the monks adrift, but to throw their labourers, an enormous number, out of work, & to deprive the poor of those means of aid which monasteries afforded - the hospital, the workhouse, & the rest - <sup>except</sup> but for all of which the peasants of pre-Reformation days looked to the neighbouring monastery. Some other causes of discontent were at work; & the country was in a ferment; clanking men cramped from village to village, threatening murders arose on all hands. Men began to arm, they were ripe for anything; but, meantime, they wanted a leader.

It happened that Robert Aske, the second son of a Yorkshire squire of that name, having occasion to pass through Lincolnshire - already in insurrection - was seized by the rebels then compelled to take their pledge of fellowship. He returned to Yorkshire, still uncertain as to his own views <sup>regard</sup> to this movement; but then, to his surprise, he found all men astir, & all waiting for him. A letter had been passed through the country in his name, calling upon the people to defend the Church. He accepted the role of leader, & the rebels assembled promptly in great forces on the common of Market Weighton. Nobles & peasants alike flocked to him, & Aske speedily found himself at the head of an army. York, Pontefract, Hull, fell into the hands of the rebels. Then came news that the king's troops under the Earl of Shrewsbury, had reached Doncaster, where they were stopped by the casting of the Don. Meanwhile the leaders of the northern army sat in council at Pontefract. And, further, Shrewsbury sent the Lancaster Herald with a proclamation from the king, which he was not permitted to read; but being carried into the presence of Aske, he was ~~constantly~~ impressed with his "post & countenance" that he fell on his knees

him, & ask speedily for aid himself at the  
head of an army. The rebels marched upon York,  
which surrendered at once. Then they attempted  
Rougemont Castle, the governor of which, being  
secretly friendly, was ready enough to surrender.  
Kil, too, fell into their hands. Then followed  
a great council of the nobles held at Rougemont,  
where the noble families of the North gathered in force.  
For the king's troops, under the Earl of Shrewsbury  
had reached Doncaster, where they were stopped  
by the swelling of the Don which "suddenly rose  
up such a height, depthness, & breadth, that the  
like no man that did there inhabit could tell  
that ever they saw it before."  
Meanwhile, the leaders of the northern army,  
Salisbury, council at Rougemont. And, that this  
Shrewsbury and the Lancastrian Herald with  
a proclamation from the king, which he was  
not allowed to fix upon the Breckelcross. He  
was brought into a chamber of the castle, where  
sat Robert Ask, "keeping his post & countenance  
as though he had been a great prince."  
"And I fell down on my knees before him."  
Says the Herald, "showing him how low a messenger  
charged by the king's council bore the proclamation."  
Ask refused to let him read it, & bade him tell  
his master, that he & his forty thousand followers  
proposed "to go to London of pilgrimage to the king's  
highness, & there to have all the evil blood of his  
council put from him, & all the noble blood  
let up again; & to have the ancient church restored  
his lands & wealth put back to the monks,  
& the common people, used as they should be."  
Then, from Rougemont, the insurgent marched in  
three divisions to Doncaster, under banners  
showing